

ABSTRACT

Process and plant for handling and stacking a plurality of thermoformed containers or lids , which comprises the following sequence of phases:

- obtaining during a thermoforming phase mouldings of lids and containers, having at least
5 three stacking protrusions or spacers, all having the same space arrangement in all the thermoformed products of the same moulding, at least one of the stacking protrusions or spacers of a same thermoformed object being set out in a non specular symmetric way with respect to at least a centre line of the respective container or lid and at a distance from the same centre line of the respective container or lid different from that of the others,
- 10 - arranging one or a moulding of said containers or lids in at least one support template to keep them in order according to the spatial arrangement that they had during the thermoforming phase,
- turning through a predetermined angle every other object or moulding of objects either containers or lids before or during their transfer to a stacking station, and
- 15 - stacking mouldings of thermoformed containers or lids with alternate mouldings turned through said predetermined angle, so as to obtain stacks of containers or lids, where the stacking protrusions of a container or lid are offset with respect to those of the next container or lid in each stack.

20 FIG. 4